

PTO/SB/24B (09-06)

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**PETITION FOR EXPRESS  
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P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/569,961          |
| Filing Date            | February 28, 2006   |
| First Named Inventor   | Masao NONAKA et al. |
| Art Unit               |                     |
| Examiner Name          |                     |
| Attorney Docket Number | 2006-0225A          |

**Petition for Express Abandonment Under 37 CFR 1.138(d) to Obtain a Refund**

I hereby petition to expressly abandon the above-identified application to obtain a refund of any previously paid search fee and excess claims fee in the application. Please refund any search fee and excess claims fee paid in this application.

☒ The Director is hereby authorized to credit the fee(s) to Deposit Account No. 23-0975.

NOTE: The provisions of 37 CFR 1.138(d) only apply to applications filed under 35 U.S.C. 111(a) on or after December 8, 2004. A paper requesting express abandonment of an application is not effective unless and until an appropriate USPTO official recognizes and acts on the paper. See the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), section 711.01.

**TO AVOID PUBLICATION, INCLUDE FORM PTO/SB/24A AND PETITION FEE WITH THIS FORM.**

- I am the: ☐ applicant.
- ☐ assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.  
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96)
- ☒ attorney or agent of record. Attorney or agent registration number is 40,268.
- ☐ attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34, who is authorized under 37 CFR 1.138(b) because the application is expressly abandoned in favor of a continuing application.  
Attorney or agent registration number is \_\_\_\_\_.

*Michael S. Ruppert*

Signature

October 24, 2006

Date

Michael S. Ruppert

Typed or printed name

202-721-8200

Telephone Number

Note: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

☒ Total of 1 forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.138(c). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Express Abandonment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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